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U. S. Department of Agriculture

BUREAU OF ENTOMOLOGY

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

NUMBER 6.

SEPTEMBER, 1914.

POSTAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS REGARDING THE SHIPMENT OF INSECTS.

Especial attention is called to the following paragraph of the Postal Laws and Regulations, providing for the transmission of insects by U. S. mail.

"Sec. 476. Queen bees and their attendant bees, when accompanied with a copy of a certificate of the current year from a State or Government apiary inspector to the effect that the apiary from which said queen bees are shipped is free from disease or by a copy of a statement by the bee-keeper made before a notary public or other officer having a seal that the honey used in making the candy used in the queen mailing cage has been diluted and boiled in a closed vessel; beneficial insects, when shipped by departments of entomology in agricultural colleges and persons holding official entomological positions; other live insects, when addressed to the Bureau of Entomology of the United States Department of Agriculture, to departments of entomology in State agricultural colleges, and to persons holding official entomological positions; and dried insects and dried reptiles may be sent in the mails when so put up as to render it practically impossible that the package shall be broken in transit, or the persons handling the same be injured, or the mail bags or their contents soiled. (Postal Laws and Regulations, 1913. Paragraph 475, Sec. 476, page 260.)

CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION.

The U. S. Civil Service Commission announces that an examination will be held October 14-15, 1914, for the position of "Scientific Assistant", U. S. Department of Agriculture. Detailed information may be had by addressing "U. S. Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C." Persons who desire to be examined should apply for Form 1312:

NEW BOOKS IN LIBRARY.

- Daniels, C. W. Tropical medicine and hygiene, with a chapter on snakes, by A. Alcock. Part II. Diseases due to the Metazoa. Ed. 2. London, John Bale, Sons & Danielsson, Ltd., 1914. 278 pp.
- Manson, Sir Patrick. Tropical diseases. Ed. 5 revised and enlarged. London, New York etc., Cassell & Co., Ltd., 1914. 937 pp.
- Slingerland, M. V. & Crosby, C. R. Manual of fruit insects, New York, The Macmillan Co., 1914. 503 pp. Bibliographic footnotes.
- List of workers in subjects pertaining to agriculture and home economics in the United States Department of Agriculture and in the State agricultural colleges and experiment stations. Corrected to June 1, 1914. Prepared in the Division of Publications, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

NEW BOOKS IN LIBRARY. (Continued)

Annales du Service des epiphytes publiees par Ed. Prillieux, P. Marchal et E. Foex. Memoires et rapports presentes au Comite des epiphytes sur les travaux et missions de 1912. Vol. 1. Paris, Librairie Lhomme, 1913.

Zeitschrift fur angewandte Entomologie, zugleich Organ der Deutschen Gesellschaft fur angewandte Entomologie. Hrsg. von Dr. K. Escherich und Dr. F. Schwangart. Berlin, Verlagsbuchhandlung Paul Parey. Band L, Heft I. April, 1914.

BUREAU PUBLICATIONS.

For the benefit of those who desire to bind up the publications of the Bureau of Entomology, the following list of incomplete bulletins and their final disposition is herewith given:-

New Series.

Bull. 83 is complete as Part I.

Bull. 94: Part I has been issued and Part II was sent to the printer on September 25, 1914. It is entitled "Biology of the Termites of the Eastern United States," by Thos. E. Snyder. A Contents and Index to these two parts will follow.

Bull. 96, consists of 6 parts and a Contents and Index will be added later.

Bull. 99, consists of 2 parts and a Contents and Index will be added later.

Bull. 109, consists of 7 parts and a Contents and Index will be added later.

Bull. 115, consists of 3 parts and a Contents and Index will be added later.

Bull. 116, consists of 5 parts and a Contents and Index will be added later.

Bull. 127, consists of 2 parts and a Contents and Index will be added later.

Technical Series.

Technical Series, No. 16 consists of 7 parts and a Contents and Index will be added later.

Technical Series, No. 17 consists of Part I (issued) and Part II (in press). It will be followed by a Contents and Index.

Technical Series No. 19, consists of 5 parts and a Contents and Index will follow.

Technical Series No. 20, consists of 6 parts and a Contents and Index will follow.

Bureau Publications.

Technical Series. (Continued)

Technical Series No. 23, consists of 2 parts and a Contents and Index will follow.

Technical Series No. 25, consists of Part I (issued) and Part II (in press) and will be followed by a Contents and Index.

Technical Series No. 27, consists of 2 parts (Part II was issued September 9, 1914.) and will be followed by a Contents and Index.

The complete numbers of the publications of the Bureau of Entomology, at the date of the discontinuance of publication, are as follows:-

Bulletins, new series, 1 to 127, inclusive.

Circulars, 2d Series, 1 to 173, inclusive.

Technical Series, 1 to 27, inclusive.

The publications of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, subsequent to the discontinuance of Bureau publications, now fall under the following heads:

Journal of Agricultural Research (Technical.) (For distribution among agricultural colleges and educational institutions only.)

Department Bulletins. (Including professional papers.)

Farmers' Bulletins.

Special Reports. (Secretary's Office)

Carnegie Scholars in Entomology.

Mr. C. W. Mason has returned to England and will accept a post in one of the African colonies.

Mr. M. E. MacGregor has returned to England and will take a lectureship at Oxford in medical zoology.

Mr. A. H. Ritchie is still in this country and is now making a trip through the Southern States.

Mr. G. H. Corbett and Mr. E. Hargreaves reached Washington late in August and are at present visiting the stations at Clarksville, Tenn., Batesburg, S. C., and Orlando, Fla.

Mr. E. R. Speyer, of Cambridge, is at present in Washington and will study forest insects, starting in October for a visit to the far western forest insect stations. He will return to England in December and proceed to Ceylon for the purpose of studying the tea Scolytid.

Still another Carnegie scholar, Mr. H. G. Champion, is expected to arrive in October to study forest insects. He is a son of the well-known entomologist, Mr. C. G. Champion.

BEE CULTURE INVESTIGATIONS.

E. F. Phillips, In Charge.

Mr. N. E. McIndoo is trying out the German type of bee veil and finds it is efficient. In addition to its use in protection from bee stings it is also serviceable in collecting insects.

Mr. N. E. McIndoo has prepared a paper entitled, "The Scent Producing Organ of the Honey Bee," which has been published in the Proceedings of Natural Science, Philadelphia, August, 1914.

CEREAL AND FORAGE INSECT INVESTIGATIONS.

F. M. Webster, In Charge.

During the early part of September several complaints have been received by the Bureau from the alfalfa-growing districts of southern Virginia regarding the serious injury to alfalfa by the Membracid, *Stictocera festina* Say. Specimens of both the work and the insect were received from R. P. Cocke of the county experiment station at Williamsburg, Va. The insect was in the fourth nymphal instar and the characteristic girdling of the stem was distinctly apparent on the plants. An emergency press notice regarding the outbreak has been issued through the Bureau of Information, pending the publication of Mr. Wildermuth's paper which will appear in the Journal of Agricultural Research.

Third generation of *Heliophila unipuncta*, Norfolk, Va.

Dr. Henry Fox has located a local outbreak of the third generation of *Heliophila unipuncta* near Norfolk, Va., and will carry on experiments to determine its method of wintering over at that point. As yet none of the individuals colored artificially and liberated at the Hagerstown laboratory have been returned by any correspondent of the Bureau. During the past few days specimens of *Apanteles* sp. and *Catocala* sp. have been sent in by distant correspondents, showing that the results of the publicity given this experiment are still being felt.

James M. Langston has been transferred from Nashville, Tenn., to Greenwood Miss., where he will assist Mr. C. F. Turner in charge of the laboratory at that point.

W. E. Pennington has been transferred from Wellington, Kans., to the Hagerstown, Md., laboratory to take the place vacated by C. M. Packard who is now at Wellington, Kans., assisting Mr. E. C. Kelly in the Hessian fly investigations.

P. R. Myers who for several years was connected with the division of insects at the U. S. National Museum has received an appointment in this Bureau and has been detailed to assist Mr. W. R. McConnell at the Hagerstown, Md., station.

DECIDUOUS FRUIT INSECT INVESTIGATIONS.

A. L. Quaintance, In Charge.

Mr. J. D. Luckett, assigned to work under the Insecticide and Fungicide Board, at Vienna, Va., resigned September 5, in order to resume school work at Purdue University.

Mr. A. L. Quaintance left Washington about the middle of September for a trip through the Western States to confer with the men who are in charge of various deciduous fruit insect field stations. En route he will visit the following stations: North East, Pa.; Benton Harbor, Mich.; Grand Junction, Colo.; Walnut Creek, Cal., and Wenatchee, Wash.

DECIDUOUS FRUIT INSECT INVESTIGATIONS. (Continued)

Mr. J. F. Strauss recently returned from a trip to Germany. While in Germany, he collected a number of aphids on fruit and garden crops, which are of considerable interest.

Mr. R. J. Fiske, was appointed August 20 to the position of Scientific Assistant in the Bureau of Entomology, and has been stationed temporarily at Grand Junction, Colo., where he will carry on investigations of the codling moth. Mr. Fiske is a graduate of the Massachusetts Agricultural College, and before entering the bureau was engaged in entomological work in Porto Rico.

PREVENTING SPREAD OF MOTHS.

A. F. Burgess, In Charge.

Mr. John N. Summers, who has been traveling in Europe for several months studying gipsy moth and brown-tail moth conditions reached New York on September 12. Mr. Summers' return to Melrose Highlands, Mass., was somewhat delayed on account of the chaotic condition existing in Europe caused by the war.

Mr. Leonard S. McLaine, Assistant to Dr. C. Gordon Hewitt, Dominion Entomologist of Canada, has recently returned to Canada. Mr. McLaine has been stationed at the Gypsy Moth Laboratory, Melrose Highlands, Mass., and has been engaged in collecting parasites of the gipsy moth and the brown-tail moth for shipment to New Brunswick and Nova Scotia where an attempt will be made to colonize these species.

Mr. J. C. Nellis, Forest Examiner, Forest Service, Washington, D. C., on August 17 and 18 made a preliminary investigation into the possibilities of the utilization of the products of silvicultural thinnings in the town of Winchendon, Mass. The problem of disposing of the large amount of low-grade material resulting from the removal of trees susceptible to gipsy moth attack is a serious one, and one that must be fully considered in connection with the problem of converting stands of species susceptible to gipsy moth attack into stands of less susceptible species, a problem upon which the Bureau of Entomology and the Forest Service have been working together for some time.

A report has been received from Mr. N. E. Shaw, Chief Inspector, Department of Agriculture, Columbus, Ohio, that several gipsy moth egg-clusters have been found on a shipment of stone received in Ohio from Massachusetts. This occurrence emphasizes the necessity of action being taken to prevent the distribution of egg-clusters into uninfested territory on shipments not subject to inspection by the Federal Horticultural Board.

In connection with the work on the wilt disease of the gipsy moth, which is being carried on by Messrs. R. W. Glaser and J. W. Chapman, at the Bussey Institution, a number of quite similar polyhedral diseases have been found in native caterpillars. In case caterpillars are found which have apparently died from any bacterial disease in any part of the country, or at any of the field stations of the Bureau, a small number of specimens are very much desired for study. These can be shipped in a dry condition, but it will facilitate the work very much if a note accompanies the sending stating where the caterpillars were found and giving any other information about the species concerned.

SOUTHERN FIELD CROP INSECT INVESTIGATIONS.

W. D. Hunter, In Charge.

Mr. A. C. Cameron, a research student of the British Board of Agriculture, who has done notable work on the entomology of the soil in England, and who has spent several months in New Jersey, visited Washington on September 23.

Messrs. T. E. Holloway and G. N. Wolcott returned from Europe about the middle of September. Mr. Holloway spent the entire month of August in Paris. He has returned to his station at New Orleans and Mr. Wolcott has resumed his work on *Lachnosterna* parasites at Urbana, Illinois.

Mr. H. C. Egerton, a collaborator working with the South Carolina Experiment Station, has been appointed assistant entomologist in the Estacion Agronomica at Santiago de las Vegas, Cuba.

Dr. J. R. Dickson, health officer of Trinidad, W. I., visited the Bureau on September 18.

Mr. W. D. Pierce has spent the month of September in determining the spread of the cotton boll weevil in Florida, Alabama and Mississippi.

E. W. Laake in company with Doctor Johnson, of the Bureau of Animal Industry, is investigating a serious outbreak of anthrax in western Texas in which transmission by horse flies seems to be indicated.

W. V. King has returned to New Orleans, La., where he will resume his work in the medical department of Tulane University.

Mr. A. W. Joblome Pomeroy has received the appointment as entomologist for the Department of Agriculture for southern Nigeria. He will proceed to his post from Liverpool on November 25.

Mr. H. P. Wood has been granted leave of absence without pay for the purpose of taking a course in Tropical Medicine at Harvard University.

There is an unusual outbreak of *Alabama argillacea* in the Southern States this season, and moths have appeared at lights in northern localities. Notes are desired from as many northern localities as possible regarding the exact dates of the first appearances of these moths, the dates of the maximum appearances and of the disappearance of the insect. Records of this kind have been kept for several years, and notes made during the present season will be especially valuable.

TROPICAL AND SUBTROPICAL INSECT INVESTIGATIONS.

C. L. Marlatt, In Charge.

At the invitation of the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station, Mr. W. W. Yothers gave an address before the Citrus Seminar held at the University of Florida, Gainesville, Fla., on September 22.

Mr. R. S. Woglum, who is in charge of the investigation of citrus insects in California, reports that the mealy bug investigations are progressing in a satisfactory manner. The life history of *Pseudococcus citri* for this season of the year has been determined, and preliminary life history work has been undertaken with a Chrysopid and Hemiarobiid, predatory enemies of the citrus mealy bug.

TROPICAL AND SUBTROPICAL FRUIT INSECT INVESTIGATIONS. (Continued)

Mr. J. R. Horton, who is in charge of the Subtropical Field Station at New Orleans, La., was recently called to St. Louis, Mo., owing to the death of his brother as the result of an accident.

TRUCK CROP AND STORED PRODUCT INSECT INVESTIGATIONS.

F. H. Chittenden, In Charge.

Mr. William B. Parker, who has been engaged during the year in investigation of insects injurious to stored products and other projects at Sacramento, Cal., has accepted the position of Farm Adviser under the auspices of the University of California, with headquarters at Ventura, Cal.

Mr. M. M. High, Entomological Assistant, engaged in investigations of onion insects and the insect enemies of other vegetable crops at Knox, Ind., leaves these headquarters for Brownsville, Texas, where he will work on the same problems.

Mr. R. S. Vaile, Collaborator and until recently Horticultural Commissioner of Ventura County, Cal., will continue as collaborator with headquarters at Berkeley, where he has been appointed Assistant Professor of orchard management in the University of California.

